

Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council
Meeting Minutes for Thursday, July 31, 2014

6:45 – 8:45 PM

The July 31, 2014 meeting of the Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council was held at the Fairfax County Government Center in Conference Room 9-10. Chairperson Karrie Delany called the meeting to order at 6:50 pm with 25 members, guests and staff present. Introductions were made and a listing of attendees is included with these minutes.

There were three presentations made to begin the meeting:

Bob Mizer, representing the Fairfax County Volunteer Fire Commission spoke of the Wellness In Our Community (WIOC) program which the Fire and Rescue Department has initiated. The WIOC is part of the Safety In Our Community activities and is designed to promote community wellness, improve the quality of life for citizens and save lives through emergency response. The File of Life program is a key element of the WIOC and allows first responders to obtain a quick medical history of a patient during an emergency response. The File of Life is a form which allows the individual to list basic information, emergency contacts, medical conditions and data, medicines being taken, recent surgeries, allergies and other important information. A convenient magnet-equipped packet is available to place the File of Life on a refrigerator or other location which can easily be accessed for reference by first responders. Bob encouraged the attendees to support the program.

Whitney Kazragis, Outreach Liaison for the Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management, provided an overview of the Fairfax Alerts program which is the new and improved emergency alerting system that is replacing the Community Emergency Alert Network. Whitney had brought along “postcards” that provide a brief explanation of the new system and how to get signed up to receive the alerts. Whitney encouraged those attending to take along the handout materials to share with their organizations, neighbors and work locations.

The next presenter was Kimberley Palmese who is coordinating the volunteer efforts for the 2015 World Police and Fire Games that will be occurring throughout the National Capital Region from June 26 through July 5, 2015. The “Games” will have 60 sports in 53 venues and they are expecting approximately 12,000 athletes from 70 different countries to participate. The actual number of athletes may actually increase to 15,000 as so many people want to visit the region. With so many people participating, there is a need for volunteers to assist at the various venues from the beginning of the event through the closing ceremonies. Somewhere between 3,000 and 4,000 volunteers are being sought who will assist the athletes and their families as well as working at the venues. The main headquarters for the events will be the Reston Town Center. Also being sought are volunteers with medical experience to staff some of the sporting events, such as wrist wrestling, which require emergency medical technicians or paramedics to be on the sites during the events. Volunteers will need to be over 18 years of age, willing to commit to working a 4 – 6 hour shift and submit to having a background check completed.

Orientations and training will be provided as well as a uniform and meals as needed. Interested individuals should visit the World Police and Fire Games web site at www.fairfax2015.com to register.

Council Business

Meeting minutes for both the March and May meetings had been distributed and a motion was sought for approval. The motion to approve the March minutes was made by Frank Vajda and seconded by Tracy Friend. The motion passed. The May meeting minutes were discussed with a correction being noted as necessary prior to being approved. The motion to approve the May meeting minutes as corrected was made by Frank Vajda and seconded by James Sobecke. The motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Grants – Dave McKernan, Coordinator for the Office of Emergency Management

- Grants for Fiscal Year 2012 have been closed out and are being reviewed by both the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and the Washington Metropolitan Council of Governments.
- The grant manager position in OEM will be announced in the near future. If there are any questions or concerns regarding grants, Diane Hansen is OEM's finance person and she can address any issues on the topic.
- A new method of filing the monthly grant reports will be established on the Fairfax County network to make the process easier.

Membership – Jim Kirkpatrick, Membership Committee

- Progress is being made in different areas including both the District representatives as well as affiliated organizations
 - Currently have 8 of the 10 districts represented
 - Looking to the Salvation Army and the Northern Virginia Technology Council for new representation. Also looking at the possibility of adding a Girl Scout representative as well.

Program Updates:

Community Emergency Response Team – Missy Tuttle-Ferrio, CERT representative

- CERT engaged in three initiatives collaborating on regional training of citizens for preparedness in Prince Georges County, Maryland and the DelMar Search and Rescue Team and Linthicum, Maryland.
- The National Capital Region will have Capital Shield for training of CERT people.
- There are three fall classes for CERT scheduled and expecting 12 people for each of the 7 sessions per class.
- Other activities planned include the Ready-Set-Know Festival, Fire Prevention Week Open houses at the fire stations as well as Fall for Fairfax.

Fire Corps – Jeff Katz, Fire and Rescue

- The Virginia Department of Emergency Management will no longer be involved or supporting the Citizen Corps for the Commonwealth and at the end of the calendar year, support will no longer be provided for the CERT program. There is no expectation of an impact to the Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council or the CERT programs as they are funded through a federal Urban Area Security Initiative grant.
- A significant reduction in the number of people signing up for CERT programs has occurred with the use of the Volunteer Management System (VMS). The VMS has been used by the Medical Reserve Corps and other county agencies which utilize volunteers as a means to consolidate individual volunteer information and better track volunteer activity. Unfortunately, people attempting to sign up often get the wrong impression about committing hours and time so they don't complete the process.
- A new form of CPR is being taught which involves compressions only so the training takes about 30-40 minutes. The course is currently being taught by members of the Springfield Volunteer Fire Department but other departments are looking at the same program. There is no certification or card issued, just the training.
- Shawn Stokes is the new representative for Fire Corps.

Medical Reserve Corps – Samantha Brann, Health Department

- 60 volunteers dedicated over 400 hours to assist with the measles investigation during a 2-3 week timeframe. They helped place over 1000 telephone calls and took over 600 incoming calls at the Health Department call center.
- On August 19th there will be a state-managed shelter exercise and 60 volunteers are being sought to assist with that event. The exercise scenario is that a hurricane has hit another area of the state and people are being evacuated to our area for shelter. There are a couple of shifts available which are not more than around 3 and a half hours long.
- The MRC will also be working with the Health Department on the upcoming TDAP clinics that will be occurring prior to the beginning of the school year.

Neighborhood Watch – Frank Vajda

- National Night Out is August 5th and the Board of Supervisors have made a proclamation for the event which was read. There are over 560 communities in Fairfax County which are involved with Neighborhood Watch and thousands of volunteers who participate in the program. A listing of the current scheduled National Night Out events will be forwarded by staff to each of the Citizen Corps Council members.

Volunteers In Police Service – Lt. Krause

- Lt. Krause will be promoted shortly and his replace, Lt. Marc Mitchell, was introduced to the group.
- An Auxiliary Police Officer class is being started in the near future.

Board of Supervisor District Representatives:

Braddock District – James Sobecke is the new representative. Nothing to report.

Mason District - Brian Foley is the new representative. Nothing to report.

Providence District – Alan Potter had nothing to report.

Springfield District – Jim Kirkpatrick had nothing to report for the district but did have questions about the Fairfax Alerts system and the conversion of individuals from the old Community Emergency Alert Network which Fairfax Alerts replaced. Individuals from CEAN will have until October 1 to be included in alerts but, after that date, unless they sign into the Fairfax Alerts system, they will be dropped from the network.

Sully District – Karrie Delany had nothing to report

Affiliated Organization Reports:

Amateur Radio Emergency Services – Mark Webber

- Recently the ARES team was involved with a large work party at the alternate emergency operations center for an exercise and all went well there. They are also getting involved with the World Police and Fire Games to assist with the communications component of those events.

Faith Communities In Action – Rev. Beth Goss

- The Interfaith Emergency Planning Steering Committee is working to revamp the Ready-Set-Go! Program which was shared through the faith community a number of years ago but is now being called Plan-Prepare and Protect.
- It is hoped to have another class for the Fairfax County Chaplain Corps in the coming months.

Northern Virginia Resource Center – Bonnie O’Leary

- Working with both CERT and MRC for classes to improve communication with individuals who have hearing impairments. The MRC staff have asked to extend the class to 90 minutes.

Volunteer Fairfax – Tracy Friend

- Currently working on a grant with OEM for outreach.
- Developing a volunteer emergency team to assist with education and staffing volunteer reception centers. Hoping to have cross-training done with CERT and the Red Cross.
- Have events scheduled at Fort Belvoir and the Burke Centre Festival.
- Working on a multi-generational activity which will involve emergency preparedness.
- Hoping to be doing a program for children's backpacks.

Staff Report – Dean Sherick

- Letters were sent to all of the organizations which are part of the Council to ensure that they have a representative and substitute for representing their group and for voting. A limited response has been received to date even though a stamped return envelope was included in the letter. This effort was being done in conjunction with the reappointment or new appointment of the representatives from the Board of Supervisor members.
- Staff attended a volunteer management seminar which provided some great information regarding volunteer performance measures and management of volunteer organizations.

Other Council Business:

Ready-Set-Know Festival – James Sobecke and Samantha Brann

- The event will be conducted in conjunction with the Burke Centre Festival on Saturday, September 6th from 9 am through 5 pm and Sunday, September 7th from 11 am to 5 pm.
- There are multiple aspects of the festival;
 - The Disaster Wheel
 - Have a Plan and Make a Kit stations
 - Moulage station
 - Recruitment and information for CCC organizations
 - Fairfax Alerts sign up
- Volunteers are needed to assist during the different shifts on each day and registration to help can be done through the Volunteer Management System. Samantha Brann provided an overview of the VMS and how the system is being used for the event.
- Around 12,000 people are expected to attend the event so this is a great opportunity for the CCC to share information about emergency preparedness. The Burke Centre Conservancy staff have provided us with an excellent location to have our booths.
- All CCC members and their organizations are encouraged to join the effort and participate in the event.

Election of Officers – Karrie Delany, Chairperson

- A description of the positions for chairperson, vice-chairperson and secretary were read to provide an overview of the duties and responsibilities.
- James Sobecke expressed interest in the chairperson position. He was nominated and elected.
- Missy Tuttle-Ferrio expressed interest in the vice-chairperson position. She was nominated and elected.
- There was not no one in attendance expressing interest in the secretary position so that position will remain vacant.

The next meeting of the Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council is scheduled for Thursday, September 25th and will be conducted in Conference Meeting Room 232.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

General Meeting – Sign In July 31, 2014

Name	Organization Represented	Initial
Bornmann, Al	Mount Vernon District	
Brann, Samantha	Medical Reserve Corps	X
Braxton, Mary	Virginia Alliance of Family Childcare	
Burns, Jane	Neighborhood Watch	
Callender, Wes	Dranesville District	
Cantagallo, Mike	American Red Cross	
Cockayne, John	Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations	
Delaney, Karrie	Sully District	X
Ewing, Lawrence	United Way	
Foley, Brian	Mason District	X
Friend, Tracy	Volunteer Fairfax	X
Galliere, Susan	Virginia Alliance of Family Childcare	
Glickstein, Steve	Amateur Radio Emergency Services	
Grapin, Mark	Boy Scouts of America	
Hale, Judith	Salvation Army	
Heppner, Cheryl	Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing	
Katz, Jeffrey	Community Emergency Response Team & Fire Corps	X
Kazragis, Whitney	Office of Emergency Management	X
Kirkpatrick, Jim	Springfield District	X
Krause, James	Volunteers in Police Service	X
Lambiase, Tom	Faith Communities In Action	
Levy, Andrew	At-Large	

Lyttle, Matt	NoVa Regional Voluntary Organizations Active In Disaster	
Mitchell, Marc	Volunteers In Police Service	X
Nieman, Charlene	CrisisLink	
O'Leary, Bonnie	Northern Virginia Resource Center for Deaf & Hard of Hearing	X
Olds, Bowman	Fairfax Joint Local Emergency Planning Committee	
Potter, Alan	Providence District	X
Powers, Dana	Community Emergency Response Team & Fire Corps	
Sanders, Jeanne	Volunteer Fairfax	
Seale, Tracey	Medical Reserve Corps	
Sherick, Dean	Office of Emergency Management	X
Sobecke, James	Braddock District	X
Stokes, Shawn	Fire Corps	X
Tuttle-Ferrio, Missy	Community Emergency Response Team	X
Vajda, Frank	Neighborhood Watch	X
Webber, Mark	Fairfax County Amateur Radio Emergency Service	X
Wheeler, Jennifer	Volunteers In Police Service	X
	ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES	
Early, Beverly	Verbatim Reporting	X
Goss, Beth	Faith Communities In Action	X
Kiell, Jonathan	CERT	X
McKernan, Dave	Office of Emergency Management	X
Mizer, Bob	Volunteer Fire Commission - Presenter	X
Palmese, Kimberley	World Police and Fire Games - Presenter	X
Smaldore, Patrick	McLean Civic Association	X